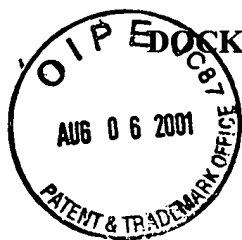


GAU/1642 \$/



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

AUG 09 2001

In Re Application of: Sergio Abrignani

Serial No.: 09/755,251

Group No.: 1642

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filing Date: January 5, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: BINDING PROTEIN

I, Doreen Yatko Trujillo, Registration No. 35,719 certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On August 3, 2001
Doreen Yatko Trujillo
Doreen Yatko Trujillo, Reg. No. 35,719

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is:

- ☒ A Second Preliminary Amendment.
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Applicant(s) has previously claimed small entity status under 37 CFR §1.27.
- ☐ Applicant(s) by its/their undersigned attorney, claims small entity status under 37 CFR §1.27 as:
- ☐ an Independent Inventor
 - ☐ a Small Business Concern
 - ☐ a Nonprofit Organization

FEE CALCULATION

☐ No Additional Fee is Due.

				SMALL ENTITY		NOT SMALL ENTITY	
	REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST PAID FOR	EXTRA	RATE	FEE	RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	04	04 (20 MINIMUM)	00	\$9 EACH	\$	\$18 EACH	\$
INDEP. CLAIMS	04	03 (3 MINIMUM)	01	\$40 EACH	\$	\$80 EACH	\$80.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT				\$135	\$	\$270	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$55	\$	\$110	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$195	\$	\$390	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$445	\$	\$890	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FOUR MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$695	\$	\$1390	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FIVE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$945	\$	\$1890	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> LESS ANY EXTENSION FEE ALREADY PAID				minus	(\$)	minus	(\$)
<input type="checkbox"/> TERMINAL DISCLAIMER				\$55	\$	\$110	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER FEE OR SURCHARGE AS FOLLOWS:							
TOTAL FEE DUE							\$80.00

☒ A Check is enclosed in the amount of \$80.00.


☒ The Commissioner is hereby requested to grant an extension of time for the appropriate length of time, should one be necessary, in connection with this filing or any future filing submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified application during the pendency of this application. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge any fees related to any such extension of time to deposit account 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.

- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the following fees and to refund any overpayment associated with this communication or during the pendency of this application to deposit account 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.
- ☐ The Foregoing Amount Due for Filing this Paper.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required, including fees for the presentation of extra claims under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- ☒ Any additional patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17 or 1.20(d).

SHOULD ANY DEFICIENCIES APPEAR with respect to this application, including deficiencies in payment of fees, missing parts of the application or otherwise, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is respectfully requested to promptly notify the undersigned.

Date:

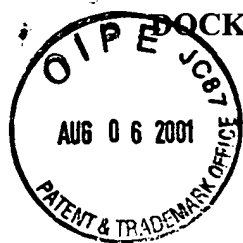
August 3, 2001



Doreen Yatko Trujillo
Registration No. 35,719

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DOCKET NO.: CHIR-0309

PATENT

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08/07/2001 TGEDAHU1 00000013 09755251

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80.00 OP

I, Doreen Yatko Trujillo, Registration No. 35,719 certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On August 3, 2001
Doreen Yatko Trujillo
Doreen Yatko Trujillo, Reg. No. 35,719

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.111, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the claims:

Please add the following claims:

~~23.~~ ^N --23. A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition, in which a protein having a molecular weight of about 24 kd, or a functionally equivalent variant or fragment thereof, and capable of specifically binding to the E2 protein of hepatitis C virus, is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

~~24.~~ 24. A protein having a molecular weight of about 24 kd, or a functionally equivalent variant or fragment thereof, and capable of specifically binding to the E2 protein of

Sub. E
Sub. contd.
Sub. 4'